General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 68 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/484/Add.3)*]

71/203. Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[2]

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter,

Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014 and 70/234 of 23 December 2015, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,[3] S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,[3] S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,[4] 19/1 of 1 March 2012,[5] 19/22 of 23 March 2012,[5] S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,[6] 20/22 of 6 July 2012,[7] 21/26 of 28 September 2012,[8] 22/24 of 22 March 2013,[9] 23/1 of 29 May 2013,[10] 23/26 of 14 June 2013,[10] 24/22 of 27 September 2013,[11] 25/23 of 28 March 2014,[12] 26/23 of 27 June 2014,[13] 27/16 of 25 September 2014,[14] 28/20 of 27 March 2015,[15] 29/16 of

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[4] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[5] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[6] Ibid., chap. V.

[7] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[8] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[9] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[10] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[11] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[12] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[13] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[14] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[15] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. II.

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2 July 2015,[16] 30/10 of 1 October 2015,[17] 31/17 of 23 March 2016,[18] 32/25 of 1 July 2016,[19] 33/23 of 30 September 2016[20] and S-25/1 of 21 October 2016[21] and Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2170 (2014) of 15 August 2014, 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016 and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, and the statements by the President of the Council of 3 August 2011,[22] 2 October 2013[23] and 17 August 2015,[24]

Condemning the grave deterioration of the human rights situation and the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians as such, in violation of international humanitarian law, and acts of violence that foment sectarian tensions,

Noting with deep concern the culture of impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the present conflict, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

Recalling that, amid expressions of popular discontent over restrictions on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic and social rights, civilian protests erupted in Dar'a in March 2011, and noting that the excessive and violent oppression of civilian protests by the Syrian authorities, which later escalated to the direct shelling of civilians, fuelled the escalation of armed violence and extremist groups, including so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL-Da'esh),

Expressing outrage at the continuing escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, which has caused more than 400,000 fatalities, including the killing of many more than 15,000 children, and in particular at the continued widespread and systematic gross violations, as well as abuses, of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving the continued indiscriminate use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments, such as the indiscriminate use of ballistic missiles, bunker-busting bombs, cluster munitions and barrel and vacuum bombs, and by the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the use of chlorine gas, which are prohibited under international humanitarian law, by the Syrian authorities against the Syrian population,

Expressing outrage and grave concern at the escalation of violence in eastern Aleppo as a result of the recent offensive by the Syrian authorities and their allies, which has caused hundreds of civilian casualties, including rescue workers, first responders, women and more than 100 children, and nearly 2,000 injured and has included repeated attacks against medical facilities, medical personnel and patients and on critical civilian infrastructure,

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[16] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[17] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[18] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. II.

[19] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[22] S/PRST/2011/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2011–31 July 2012* (S/INF/67).

[23] S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

[24] S/PRST/2015/15.

Recalling the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and recalling also that, under international law, attacks intentionally directed against hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided that they are not military objectives, as well as attacks intentionally directed against buildings, material, medical units and transport and personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[25] in conformity with international law are war crimes,

Expressing grave concern at the disproportionate use of force by the Syrian authorities against civilians, which has caused immense human suffering and fomented the spread of extremism and extremist groups and which demonstrates the failure of the Syrian authorities to protect its population and to implement the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies,

Expressing grave concern also at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular so-called ISIL-Da'esh, Al-Nusrah Front and militias fighting on behalf of the regime, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups and other extremist groups,

Expressing its deepest concern about the findings of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the use of chemical weapons in at least three attacks and so-called ISIL-Da'esh was responsible for one attack, reaffirming the principles of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[26] and the determination of the States parties to the Convention "for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons, through the implementation of the provisions of this Convention", and noting that the Convention entered into force in the Syrian Arab Republic on 14 October 2013,

Expressing support for the work carried out by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, and strongly condemning the lack of cooperation by the Syrian authorities with the Commission of Inquiry,

Noting with serious concern the observation of the Commission of Inquiry that, since March 2011, the Syrian authorities have conducted widespread attacks against the civilian population as a matter of policy,

Strongly condemning the widespread practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual and gender-based violence and torture in detention centres referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry, including, but not limited to, Branch 215, Branch 227, Branch 235, Branch 251, Air Force Intelligence Investigation Branch at Mezzeh military airport, and Sednaya prison, as well as military hospitals, including Tishreen and Harasta hospitals,

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[25] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[26] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

Recalling the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, noting the repeated encouragement by the High Commissioner for the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court, and regretting that a draft resolution[27] was not adopted notwithstanding broad support from Member States,

Expressing its deepest concern about the findings of the Commission of Inquiry and also the allegations contained in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014 regarding the torture and execution of persons incarcerated by the Syrian authorities, and underscoring the need for those allegations and similar evidence to be collected, examined and made available for future accountability efforts,

Expressing concern that the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015), 2268 (2016) and 2286 (2016) remains largely unfulfilled, and noting the urgent need to strengthen efforts to address the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including through protection of civilians and rapid, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access,

Recalling its commitment to Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), and 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015,

Alarmed that more than 4.8 million refugees, including more than 3.6 million women and children, have been forced to flee the Syrian Arab Republic and that 13.5 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic, of whom 6.1 million are internally displaced, require urgent humanitarian assistance, which has resulted in an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries, other countries in the region and beyond, and alarmed at the risk the situation presents to regional and international stability,

Expressing its profound indignation at the death of many more than 15,000 children and the many more injured since the beginning of the peaceful protests in March 2011, and at all grave violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape, kidnapping and abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, detention, torture, ill-treatment and their use as human shields,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and other countries in the region to accommodate Syrians, while acknowledging the increasing financial, socioeconomic and political impact of the presence of large-scale refugee and displaced populations in those countries, notably in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt and Libya,

Welcoming the hosting by the Government of Kuwait of the First, Second and Third International Humanitarian Pledging Conferences for Syria, held on 30 January 2013, 15 January 2014 and 31 March 2015, and expressing its deep appreciation for the significant pledges of humanitarian assistance that have been made, welcoming also the initiative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Norway, Kuwait and the United Nations, which

[27] S/2014/348.

co-hosted the London conference on supporting the Syrian Arab Republic and the region on 4 February 2016, and renewing its call upon all members of the international community to respond expeditiously to the Syrian humanitarian appeals and to disburse all previous pledges,

Welcoming also the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and all diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian crisis based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,[28] and consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015),

Expressing full support for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, with a view to the protection of the civilian population and the full implementation of the Syrian political process that establishes credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance, in accordance with the final communiqué and consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2258 (2015), urging the Special Envoy to pave the way for the negotiation of a genuine political transition, demanding a restoration of the cessation of hostilities and that all parties to the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic respect their commitments, and urging all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence to ensure respect for those commitments and the full implementation of those resolutions, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

1. *Strongly condemns* the recent escalation of attacks directed against civilians in Aleppo and other besieged and hard-to-reach areas, and demands that the humanitarian provisions of Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015) and 2286 (2016) be immediately implemented and that humanitarian aid be safely delivered to all people in need;

2. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of international human rights law and all violations of international humanitarian law committed, in particular all indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks, including the use of barrel bombs in civilian areas and against civilian infrastructure, and demands that all parties immediately demilitarize medical facilities and schools and comply with their obligations under international law;

3. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued armed violence by the Syrian authorities against its own people since the beginning of the peaceful protests in 2011, and demands that the Syrian authorities immediately put an end to all indiscriminate attacks, including those involving the use of terror tactics, air strikes, barrel and vacuum bombs, incendiary weapons, chemical weapons and heavy artillery;

4. *Strongly condemns* any use of any toxic chemicals, such as chlorine, by any party as a weapon in the Syrian Arab Republic;

5. *Recalls* the decision of the Security Council that the Syrian Arab Republic shall not use, develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile or retain chemical weapons, or transfer, directly or indirectly, chemical weapons to other States or non-State actors, and, in keeping with the decision of the Council, expresses its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of

[28] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex II.

chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic should be held accountable, and calls for a significant enhancement of the verification measures of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

6. *Welcomes* the reports of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism of 24 August 2016[29] and 21 October 2016,[30] and notes with deep concern its findings that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the use of chemical weapons in at least three attacks in the Syrian Arab Republic (Talmenes in 2014, Sarmin in 2015 and Qmenas in 2015) and that so-called ISIL-Da'esh was responsible for one mustard gas attack in the Syrian Arab Republic (Marea in 2015);

7. *Demands* that the Syrian regime and so-called ISIL-Da'esh immediately cease the use of chemical weapons, and also demands that the Syrian regime adhere fully to its international obligations, including the requirement that it declare in full its chemical weapons programme, with special emphasis on the need for the Syrian Arab Republic to urgently resolve the verified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies pertaining to its declaration in respect of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[26] and to eliminate its chemical weapons programme in its entirety as referred to in the report of the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons dated 22 February 2016[31] indicating that the Technical Secretariat is at present unable to verify fully that the declaration and related submissions of the Syrian Arab Republic are accurate and complete, as required by the Convention and decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;[32]

8. *Requests* additional procedures for stringent verification pursuant to article IV, paragraph 8, and article V, paragraph 10, of the Convention, in order to ensure the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and prevent any further use of chemical weapons;

9. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, the Government-affiliated *shabbiha* militias and those who fight on their behalf, including those deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects, including attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, with heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles, barrel bombs, chemical or other weapons and other force against civilians, as well as the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of peaceful protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of women's and children's rights, forced displacement of members of minority groups, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment;

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[29] S/2016/738/Rev.1.

[30] S/2016/888.

[31] EC-81/HP/DG.1.

[32] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex I.

10. *Calls for* a restoration of the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic, demands that all the parties, most notably the Syrian regime, stop their attacks against civilians, including in populated areas, and that all parties to the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic redouble their efforts to fulfil their commitments, consistent with Security Council resolution 2268 (2016), and urges all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence with the parties to the cessation of hostilities to ensure immediate implementation of a monitored and enforceable cessation of hostilities, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law;

11. *Strongly condemns* all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups;

12. *Deplores and strongly condemns* the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called ISIL-Da'esh and Al-Nusrah Front and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism, including the actions of so-called ISIL-Da'esh, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization;

13. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the gross and systematic abuse of women's and children's rights by so-called ISIL-Da'esh, in particular the enslavement and sexual abuse of women and girls and the forced recruitment, use and abduction of children;

14. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, and calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may amount to crimes against humanity;

15. *Reminds* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic of its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[33] including to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to comply with any relevant obligations under the Convention, including with respect to the extradite or prosecute principle contained in article 7 of the Convention;

16. *Strongly condemns* the reported persistent and widespread use of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, including in government detention centres, including those run by the intelligence agencies, and notes that such acts may constitute violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law, and in this regard expresses deep concern at the prevailing climate of impunity for sexual violence crimes;

[33] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

17. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and all other forms of sexual violence, abductions, denial of humanitarian access for children, and attacks on civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields;

18. *Recalls* the statement made by the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic on 21 September 2015 that the Syrian authorities remain responsible for the majority of the civilian casualties, killing and maiming scores of civilians daily, reiterates its decision to transmit the reports of the Commission of Inquiry to the Security Council, expresses its appreciation to the Commission of Inquiry for its briefings to members of the Security Council, and requests that the Commission of Inquiry continue to brief the General Assembly and members of the Security Council;

19. *Reaffirms* the Syrian authorities' responsibility for enforced disappearances, takes note of the assessment of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian authorities' use of enforced disappearances amounts to a crime against humanity, and condemns the targeted disappearances of young men, following Government-brokered ceasefires;

20. *Expresses its profound concern* about the findings contained in the report of the Commission of Inquiry regarding the tragic and relentless level of indiscriminate attacks on civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic, targeted attacks on protected persons and objects, including medical facilities, personnel and transport and blocked humanitarian convoys, as well as enforced disappearances, summary executions and other violations and abuses;

21. *Deplores* the horrific attack on 19 September 2016 on a United Nations-Syrian Arab Red Crescent aid convoy in rural Aleppo, which was in clear violation of international humanitarian law, welcomes the decision of the United Nations to investigate this attack, calls for the perpetrators to be held accountable, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of an internal and independent United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry into the incident, and reaffirms that humanitarian workers and their means of transport, equipment and facilities must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law;

22. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full and unfettered access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic;

23. *Also demands* that the Syrian authorities meet their responsibilities to protect the Syrian population;

24. *Strongly condemns* the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, particularly the Al-Quds Brigades, the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and militia groups such as Hizbullah, Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and Liwa' Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas, and expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region;

25. *Also strongly condemns* all attacks against the Syrian moderate opposition, and calls for their immediate cessation, given that such attacks benefit so-called ISIL-Da'esh and other terrorist groups, such as Al-Nusrah Front, and contribute to a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

26. *Demands* that all foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are fighting in support of the Syrian authorities, immediately withdraw from the Syrian Arab Republic;

27. *Also demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, immediately demilitarize such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting its population;

28. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the increasing number of massacres and other mass casualty incidents, including those which may constitute a war crime, taking place in the Syrian Arab Republic, and requests the Commission of Inquiry to continue to investigate all such acts;

29. *Recalls* the statements made by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, indicating that the overwhelming majority of the civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic have been caused by the indiscriminate use of aerial bombardments, demands in this regard that the Syrian authorities immediately cease any attacks on civilians, any disproportionate attacks and any indiscriminate use of weapons in populated areas, including any indiscriminate use of weapons involving shelling and aerial bombardment, in particular the use of barrel bombs and methods of warfare which are of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering, and recalls in this regard the obligation to respect international humanitarian law in all circumstances;

30. *Emphasizes* the need for accountability for crimes involving breaches of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level;

31. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate conduct in the Syrian Arab Republic and to prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share relevant information between States in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and encourages other States to consider doing the same;

32. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility for providing urgent financial support to enable the host countries and communities to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the principle of burden-sharing;

33. *Calls upon* all members of the international community, including all donors, to fulfil their previous pledges and continue to provide much-needed support to the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Syrians displaced both internally and in host countries and communities;

34. *Strongly condemns* the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance to civilians, from whatever quarter, and in particular the denial of medical assistance and the withdrawal of water and sanitation services to civilian areas, which has recently worsened, stressing that the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international law, noting especially the primary responsibility of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in this regard, and deplores the deteriorating humanitarian situation;

35. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities and all other parties to the conflict not hinder the full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained access of the United Nations and humanitarian actors, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas, consistent with Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015) and 2258 (2015);

36. *Strongly condemns* practices including abduction, hostage-taking, incommunicado detention, torture, the brutal murder of innocent civilians and summary executions carried out by non-State armed groups and terrorist groups, most notably so-called ISIL-Da'esh and Al-Nusrah Front, and underlines that such acts may amount to crimes against humanity;

37. *Deplores* the suffering and torture in detention centres throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, as depicted in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014, demands that the Syrian authorities immediately release all persons arbitrarily detained and ensure that detention conditions are consistent with international law, and calls upon the Syrian authorities to publish a list of all detention facilities;

38. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities halt the arbitrary detention of individuals and release all those unlawfully detained, and that so-called ISIL-Da'esh, Al-Nusrah Front and all other groups release all those detained;

39. *Calls for* the appropriate international monitoring bodies to be granted access to detainees in government prisons and detention centres, including all military facilities referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry;

40. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities;

41. *Strongly condemns* the damage and destruction of the cultural heritage of the Syrian Arab Republic, bearing in mind the widespread destruction recently brought about by air bombings in Aleppo, a World Heritage Site of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the organized looting and trafficking of its cultural property, as outlined by the Security Council in its resolution 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015;

42. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law or violations and abuses of human rights law are held to account through appropriate fair and independent domestic or international, criminal justice mechanisms in accordance with the principle of complementarity, and stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal, and for this reason encourages the Security Council to take appropriate action to ensure accountability, noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard;

43. *Welcomes* the efforts of those countries outside the region that have put in place measures and policies to assist and host Syrian refugees, encourages them to do more, and encourages other States outside the region to consider also implementing similar measures and policies, with a view to providing Syrian refugees with protection and humanitarian assistance;

44. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, personnel of the specialized agencies and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, stresses the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, recalls that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes, and notes in this regard that the Security Council reaffirmed in its resolution 2258 (2015) that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) or 2258 (2015) by any Syrian party;

45. *Calls upon* the international community to support the leadership and full participation of women in all efforts aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as envisaged by the Security Council in its resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015;

46. *Reaffirms* that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the parties to the conflict to abstain from actions that may contribute to the continuing deterioration of the human rights, security and humanitarian situation, in order to reach a genuine political transition, based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,[28] consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2268 (2016), that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a civil, democratic and pluralistic State, with the full and effective participation of women, where there is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender or any other grounds, and where all citizens receive equal protection, regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity, and further demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the final communiqué, including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring the continuity of governmental institutions.

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[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/484/Add.3)*]

71/204. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 70/173 of 17 December 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 6 September 2016,[3] submitted pursuant to resolution 70/173, and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran of 30 September 2016,[4] submitted pursuant to Council resolution 31/19 of 23 March 2016;[5]

2. *Continues to welcome* the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to some important human rights issues, particularly on eliminating discrimination against women and members of ethnic minorities and on greater space for freedom of expression and opinion;

3. *Acknowledges* legislative and administrative changes in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which, if properly implemented, would address some human rights concerns, including portions of the new Code of Criminal Procedure;

4. *Welcomes* the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with human rights treaty bodies, including through the submission of periodic reports, and notes in particular the engagement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its participation in the universal periodic review;

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] A/71/374.

[4] A/71/418.

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

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5. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host large numbers of Afghan refugees, granting them access to basic services, in particular access to health care and education for children;

6. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to postpone the annual civil service entry exam because of concerns that it discriminates against women;

7. *Welcomes* the increasing contact with and dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the invitations extended to other special procedures mandate holders;

8. *Also welcomes* the recently expressed readiness of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and other Iranian officials to engage in bilateral dialogues on human rights;

9. *Expresses serious concern* at the alarmingly high frequency of the imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of its international obligations, including executions undertaken for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, on the basis of forced confessions or against minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of both the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] expresses concern at the continuing disregard for internationally recognized safeguards, including executions undertaken without notification to the prisoner's family members or legal counsel, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary;

10. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual violence, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offence, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations;

11. *Urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease enforced disappearances and the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention, and to uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure fair trial standards, including timely access to legal representation of one's choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and all appeals, the right not to be subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial;

12. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, to eliminate the denial of access to adequate medical treatment and the consequent risk of death faced by prisoners and to put an end to the continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections despite serious concerns about their health, as well as the pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest;

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

13. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which an independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to end widespread and serious restrictions, in law and in practice, on the right to freedom of expression, opinion, association and peaceful assembly, both online and offline, including by ending the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women's and minority rights activists, labour leaders, students' rights activists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers and persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities and their families, and further calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons arbitrarily detained for the legitimate exercise of these rights, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including the death penalty and long-term internal exile, for exercising such fundamental freedoms and to end reprisals against individuals, including for cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

14. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, including with respect to the right to freedom of movement, the right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the right to work, to take measures to ensure protection for women and girls against violence and their equal protection and access to justice, to address the concerning incidence of child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to promote, support and enable women's participation in leadership and decision-making processes and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women's equal access to all aspects of education and women's equal participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life;

15. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including but not limited to Arabs, Azeris, Balochis and Kurds, and their defenders;

16. *Expresses serious concern* about ongoing severe limitations and restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to harassment, persecution, arbitrary arrests and detention, denial of access to education and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians and members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a recognized or unrecognized minority religious group, including the seven Baha'i leaders declared by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council to have been arbitrarily detained since 2008, and to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination, including economic restrictions, such as the closure or confiscation of businesses and properties, the cancellation of licences and denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities;

17. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to launch a comprehensive accountability process in response to all cases of serious human rights violations, including those involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end impunity for such violations;

18. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure credible, transparent and inclusive presidential elections in 2017 and to allow all candidates to stand in a manner consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in order to guarantee the free expression of the will of the Iranian people, and to that end calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to allow independent national and international observation;

19. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that are imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to consider acting upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

20. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with international human rights mechanisms by:

(*a*) Cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including by accepting the repeated requests made by the Special Rapporteur to visit the country in order to carry out the mandate;

(*b*) Increasing cooperation with other special mechanisms, including by facilitating long-standing requests for access to the country from thematic special procedures mandate holders, whose access to its territory has been restricted or denied, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran, without imposing undue conditions upon those visits;

(*c*) Implementing all accepted universal periodic review recommendations from its first cycle, in 2010, and its second cycle, in 2014, with the full and genuine participation of independent civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process;

(*d*) Building upon the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the universal periodic review process by continuing to explore cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(*e*) Following through on its commitment to establish an independent national human rights institution, made in the context of both its first and its second universal periodic reviews by the Human Rights Council, with due regard for the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

21. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to translate the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to human rights concerns into concrete action that results in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to ensure that its national laws are consistent with its obligations under international human rights law and that they are implemented in accordance with its international obligations;

22. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations in law and in practice;

23. *Strongly encourages* the relevant thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session;

25. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 February 2017

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 68 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/484/Add.3)*]

71/205. Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] international human rights treaties and other relevant international instruments and declarations,

Confirming the primary responsibility of States to promote and protect human rights,

Reaffirming the responsibility of States to respect international law, including the principle that all States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and from acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system,

Condemning the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter "Crimea") – by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

Welcoming the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine, of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and of the human rights assessment mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the High

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

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Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they stated that violations and abuses of human rights continued to take place in Crimea and pointed to the sharp deterioration of the overall human rights situation,

Condemning the imposition of the legal system of the Russian Federation and the negative impact on the human rights situation in Crimea,

Condemning also the reported serious violations and abuses committed against residents of Crimea, in particular extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, politically motivated prosecutions, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence, arbitrary detentions, torture and ill-treatment of detainees and their transfer from Crimea to the Russian Federation, as well as reported abuses of other fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, religion or belief and association and the right to peaceful assembly,

Expressing serious concern at the decision of the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea of 26 April 2016 and the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation of 29 September 2016 to declare the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, the self-governing body of the Crimean Tatars, to be an extremist organization and to ban its activities,

Recalling the prohibition under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[2] for the occupying Power to compel a protected person to serve in its armed or auxiliary forces,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations to support Ukraine in promoting, protecting and ensuring human rights, and expressing concern over the lack of safe and unfettered access by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea,

1. *Condemns* the abuses, measures and practices of discrimination against the residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, including Crimean Tatars, as well as Ukrainians and persons belonging to other ethnic and religious groups, by the Russian occupation authorities;

2. *Urges* the Russian Federation:

(*a*) To uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law as an occupying Power;

(*b*) To take all measures necessary to bring an immediate end to all abuses against residents of Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and to revoke all discriminatory legislation;

(*c*) To immediately release Ukrainian citizens who were unlawfully detained and judged without regard for elementary standards of justice, as well as those transferred across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation;

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

(*d*) To address the issue of impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for abuses are held accountable before an independent judiciary;

(*e*) To create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for journalists and human rights defenders to perform their work independently and without undue interference in Crimea;

(*f*) To permit the reopening of cultural and religious institutions;

(*g*) To revoke immediately the decision declaring the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People an extremist organization and banning its activities, and repeal the decision banning leaders of the Mejlis from entering Crimea;

(*h*) To cooperate fully and immediately with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe on the situation of human rights in Crimea;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to ensure safe and unfettered access to Crimea by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms to enable them to carry out their mandate;

4. *Urges* the Russian Federation to ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea, recognizing that the international presence in Crimea is of paramount importance in preventing further deterioration of the situation;

5. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a dedicated thematic report on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in accordance with the existing mandate and within the existing resources of the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine, which is currently funded by voluntary contributions;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

United Nations A/RES/71/206

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 January 2017

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/485)*]

71/206. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,[1] should be held,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development, and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

[1] Resolution 46/152, annex.

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Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments in staying fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[2]

Recalling its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015, in which it endorsed the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the implementation of the Doha Declaration under the standing item on its agenda entitled "Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice",

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015,

Encouraged by the success of the Thirteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fourteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[4] when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

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[2] See E/CN.15/2007/6.

[3] E/CN.15/2016/11.

[4] Resolution 70/174, annex.

3. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Qatar to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the implementation of the Doha Declaration, and also welcomes the funding agreement signed on 27 November 2015 between the Government and the Office;

4. *Invites* Member States to provide their suggestions in relation to the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and requests the Secretary-General to include those suggestions in the report on the follow-up to the Thirteenth Congress and preparations for the Fourteenth Congress to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session;

5. *Recommends* that, building on the experience and the success of the Thirteenth Congress, all efforts be made to ensure that the overall theme and the agenda items and workshop topics of the Fourteenth Congress be interrelated and that the agenda items and workshop topics be streamlined and limited in number, and encourages the holding of side events that are focused on and complement the agenda items and workshops;

6. *Requests* the Commission to approve at its twenty-sixth session the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress.

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

Recalling the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

Expressing concern over the continued absence of a director of the Institute, and noting the important role of such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

Noting with concern that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

Recalling the detailed description provided in the report of the Secretary-General of funding deficiencies that have severely undermined the Institute's capacity to serve the needs of the region, and recognizing that crime results in the expenditure of a significant amount of resources,

Bearing in mind that the Institute is an important component of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice network, and that without the necessary funds, the Institute will fail to accomplish its vital goals of combating drug trafficking, cybercrime and environmental crimes, among other challenges, as well as its goals of reforming the crucial deficiencies in the region's prosecution system and building effective and strong alliances among law enforcement personnel, professional bodies, academic institutions, individual communities, experts and traditional and civil authorities in order to proactively prevent crime,

Acknowledging the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Also reiterates* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

6. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

7. *Urges* States members of the Institute that have failed to meet their financial pledges to the Institute to pay all or part of those outstanding arrears, taking into consideration that member States are to fund 73 per cent of the approved budget;

8. *Recalls* the report of the Governing Board of the Institute, convened in Lilongwe on 29 May 2015, which outlines the positive conclusion of the review process aimed at reinvigorating the Institute and discusses measures to address the decline in financial support for the programmes of the Institute;

9. *Also recalls* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

10. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

11. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[2] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[3] and encourages States parties that have not yet implemented the conventions to inform the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of any impediments they encounter and of their need for technical assistance to overcome those impediments;

12. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

13. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the Institute's collaboration with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

14. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

15. *Welcomes* the Institute's initiative to collaborate with relevant universities to operationalize the link between criminal justice authorities and sources of traditional justice approaches, so as to harmonize the use of restorative practices where they may be appropriate;

16. *Also welcomes* the Institute's initiatives to work with specific academic and specialized human rights institutions that are connected to other professional networks in the region to promote curricula that have a strong crime prevention and criminal justice component;

17. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country, with specific emphasis on tailoring practitioner training and development efforts to address identified vulnerabilities, and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office as well as to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a biennial report with a specific focus on the current and future structural, financial, administrative and operational aspects of the Institute, giving due consideration to intensifying efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to deliver services effectively.

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 February 2017

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/485)*]

71/208. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013 and 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013[1] and 29/11 of 2 July 2015,[2]

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[3] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation,

Stressing the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Bearing in mind the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, under which States parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

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[1] *See Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

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Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015 on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption, at the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress, of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,[4] through which States committed to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank,

Recognizing that education plays a fundamental role in the prevention of and fight against corruption, inasmuch as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

[4] Resolution 70/174, annex.

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law at the national and international levels, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

Acknowledging that good governance, at the national and international levels, has a role in the prevention of and fight against corruption,

Realizing that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

Recognizing that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

Recalling that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

Recalling also article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention, in which States parties are encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal systems, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption,

Welcoming the commitment of States parties to the Convention, in particular their determination to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

Recognizing that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III, and recognizing the strategic role of a holistic approach to countering corruption, money-laundering and transnational organized crime,

Recognizing that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the

Convention,[5] including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013[6] and resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015[7] of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of States parties to the Convention to the first review cycle process of the Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, as well as the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard,

Recognizing the launch of the second review cycle of the Mechanism pursuant to paragraph 13 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism and consistent with resolution 6/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,

Bearing in mind that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

Reaffirming that strengthening international cooperation among law enforcement and other relevant agencies is a global imperative in order to effectively prevent and combat transnational corruption,

Affirming the importance of promoting dialogue among central authorities and practitioners prior to the submission of mutual legal assistance requests, which are particularly valuable in investigations of corruption, and coordination and cooperation on asset recovery through inter-agency networks, including regional networks, where appropriate,

Reaffirming its concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

Expressing concern over illicit financial flows, and related tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering, and their negative impact on the world economy, and inviting Member States to consider developing strategies or policies to combat those practices and to curb the harmful effects of jurisdictions and territories that are uncooperative in tax matters and to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows,

Noting the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

Recognizing that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in

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[5] See CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect. I.A.

[6] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.B.

[7] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

Concerned about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

Recognizing the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

Recognizing also the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

Calling upon all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

Noting the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention,

Concerned that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions and have been successful in hiding their assets,

Taking into account the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of the illicit profits and proceeds of their crimes,

Acknowledging the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

Acknowledging also the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Concerned about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

Noting with appreciation also the efforts made by those States that have established national coordination mechanisms between, inter alia, the different levels of their Governments and other actors, such as civil society organizations, the private sector and academia, to prevent and combat corruption,

Noting with appreciation further the efforts of regional organizations and forums to combat corruption, including, inter alia, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

Noting with appreciation the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcoming their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States,

Noting with appreciation also the Lausanne process initiative on practical guidelines for the efficient recovery of stolen assets, developed by 30 States parties to the Convention in close collaboration with the International Centre for Asset Recovery and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, and aimed at developing effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States,

Welcoming resolution 6/3 of 6 November 2015 on fostering effective asset recovery[7] and resolution 6/4 of 6 November 2015 on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, including through international cooperation, in the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[7] adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and also welcomes its report,[8]

[8] CAC/COSP/2015/10.

which reflects the outcomes and contributions of the Conference of the States Parties to promoting the implementation of the Convention;

2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[3]

4. *Welcomes* the fact that 180 States parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

5. *Urges* all countries that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and acceding to the Convention, and encourages States parties to the Convention to review its implementation and commit to making it an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and encourage the international community to develop good practices on asset return, and, furthermore, to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the panel discussion on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, held at the twenty-second session of the Human Rights Council;

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;[9]

8. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first review cycle of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned during the first review cycle in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;

9. *Strongly encourages* States parties to the Convention to engage actively in the second review cycle of the Mechanism on chapter II, Preventive measures, and chapter V, Asset recovery, of the Convention, and invites them to provide appropriate extrabudgetary resources to contribute to the financing of the second review cycle;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on Review

[9] CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.

of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all of these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

11. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to continue and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

12. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to strengthen their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

13. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

14. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to make available online, including by considering the use of open data formats, as much government information as feasible, subject to relevant limitations in domestic law, in relation to the implementation of the Convention, in order to enable greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;

15. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, including those related to the States concerned in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as other requesting States, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;[10]

16. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and, where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the network of focal points of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

17. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication and the possibility of spontaneous exchange of information, as permitted by domestic law, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in

[10] CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A, resolution 5/3, para. 6.

asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for mutual legal assistance;

18. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures, and also encourages States parties to limit, where appropriate, domestic legal immunities, in accordance with their legal systems and constitutional principles;

19. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

20. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

21. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, including through measures to permit recognition of non-conviction-based seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, where possible;

22. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous and prompt disclosures of information on proceeds of offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgments;

23. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable beneficial ownership information on companies is accessible to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and execution of requests;

24. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

25. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption offences, committed by natural or legal persons, including, if appropriate, through mutual legal assistance, for the detection of corruption offences, the

identification, freezing and confiscation of assets, and the other purposes established in article 46, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures, in accordance with their domestic law, to permit another Member State to initiate civil action in their courts to establish title to or ownership of property acquired through the commission of corruption offences by natural or legal persons, as well as to permit their courts to recognize a civil claim of another Member State for payment of compensation or damages caused by corruption offences and for ownership of confiscated property acquired through the commission of such offences;

27. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

28. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracking of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

29. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

30. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability, and in this respect encourages legal professionals and non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to assist businesses, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, to develop codes of conduct and compliance programmes for preventing bribery and corruption and promoting integrity;

31. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/5 by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;[11]

32. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and

[11] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.

to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

33. *Notes* the establishment by States of financial intelligence units, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider establishing such units in accordance with article 58 of the Convention;

34. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

35. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals engaged in corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

36. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

37. *Invites* Member States to make every effort to prevent and counter corruption and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of their criminal justice systems, in accordance with the Convention;

38. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

39. *Also calls for* closer and active collaboration among interested States parties to the Convention, regional organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, in identifying commendable practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery consistent with chapter V of the Convention;

40. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

41. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness, through, inter alia, media campaigns, regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

42. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (*c*), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to give due consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session;[7]

44. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the United Nations Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 on the private sector[11] and the adoption on 6 November 2015 of resolution 6/5, the Saint Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption,[7] by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

45. *Recognizes* the important role of business and public-private partnerships in promoting measures to fight corruption, especially measures that support the promotion of ethical business practices in interactions between government, business and other stakeholders;

46. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

47. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

48. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and civil and administrative proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

49. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate,

information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

50. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

51. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools in the cooperation for asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools, with a view to enhancing early and spontaneous information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

52. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

53. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in a practical guide or other format designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages;

54. *Calls upon* requesting and requested States with practical experience in asset recovery to develop, as appropriate, in cooperation with interested States and providers of technical assistance, non-binding practical guidelines, such as a step-by-step guide, for efficient asset recovery, with a view to enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on the lessons learned from past cases, being mindful to seek to add value by building upon existing work in this area;

55. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

56. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

57. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and provide information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

58. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

59. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and

identity-related crime and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

60. *Encourages* Member States to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank;

61. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider, where appropriate, and in accordance with national law, the opportunity of referring to the draft Lausanne guidelines for the efficient recovery of stolen assets in their practice and to continue to exchange practical experiences and consolidate them into a non-binding, step-by-step guide or asset recovery manual, in cooperation with interested States and providers of technical assistance, upon the request of the relevant interested parties;

62. *Notes with appreciation* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcomes their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States;

63. *Also notes with appreciation* the holding of the Anti-Corruption Summit in London on 12 May 2016, at which a number of countries and international organizations committed to accelerating their efforts to effectively address corruption, and invites them to build on the momentum and to continue to implement the commitments they made;

64. *Further notes with appreciation* the outcomes of the Ministerial Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, held in Paris on 16 March 2016, which launched the fourth evaluation phase of the peer review mechanism and recommended active enforcement of anti-corruption laws;

65. *Welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

66. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, takes note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016,[12] and urges the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system;

[12] See A/71/380, annex.

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its seventh session.

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/485)*]

71/209. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 69/193 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014, 69/281 of 28 May 2015, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/76 of 9 December 2015, 70/120 of 14 December 2015, 70/174, 70/175, 70/178 and 70/182 of 17 December 2015, 70/291 of 1 July 2016, 70/299 of 29 July 2016 and 70/301 of 9 September 2016,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[3] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[4] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[5] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/16 of 26 July 2016 on follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and recalling the importance of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth Congress,[6]

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[2] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[5] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[6] Resolution 70/174, annex.

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Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals and stones in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals and stones as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[7] which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, in which it encouraged coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and called for avoiding duplication,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development should be an integral element of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations

[7] Resolution 70/1.

agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,[8] in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,[9] and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

Welcoming the results of the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and of the launch of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Bearing in mind that the return of assets is one of the main objectives and a fundamental principle of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and that the States parties to the Convention are obligated to afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard,

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[10] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by these Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Recognizing also the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hangzhou Summit communiqué,[11] and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

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[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[9] Resolution 67/187, annex.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[11] See A/71/380, annex.

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks and organizations,

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006, [12] and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 70/291, and other relevant resolutions in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request,

Recalling the importance of its resolution 70/120 on measures to eliminate international terrorism and of resolution 70/148 of 17 December 2015 on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

Recalling also its resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery,

Expressing concern that economic resources, such as oil, oil products, modular refineries and related material, other natural resources and other assets become available to organized criminal and terrorist groups,

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

[12] Resolution 60/288.

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the general progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies, illicit trafficking in wildlife, trafficking in cultural property, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, drug trafficking and terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/170 of 19 December 2016, entitled "Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence", recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,[13]

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, expressing deep concern about gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 68/191 of 18 December 2013 and 70/176 of 17 December 2015 on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, and recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes,

Noting the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[14] as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

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[13] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 7* (E/2014/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[14] Resolution 69/194, annex.

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[15] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[16] and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice,

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolution 70/146 of 17 December 2015, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[17] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,[18] which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

Recalling its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Welcoming the adoption, by its resolution 70/175, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19] and its resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015,

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[16] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[17] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[18] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, and recalling its resolutions 69/187 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/23 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/23 of 21 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

Welcoming its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

Welcoming also the work of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the practical assistance tool aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences[20] through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the implementation of resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013, 69/196 and 70/76 and facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, and the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and to facilitate cooperation in this area, including in countering the financing of terrorism in accordance with resolution 70/177 of 17 December 2015,

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution 70/76,

[20] Resolution 69/196, annex.

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

Emphasizing that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and in hazardous waste, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions 69/314 of 30 July 2015 and 70/301 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide updated information to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the global status of illicit trafficking in wildlife, including poaching and illegal trade, and on the implementation of resolution 70/301, and to present proposals for possible future action,

Recalling also Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 22/7 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime and 22/8 on promoting technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen national measures and international cooperation against cybercrime, both of 26 April 2013,[21]

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and telecommunications technologies in multiple forms of crime,

Concerned also by the serious challenges and threats posed by trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with terrorism and other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[22] the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[23] and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,[24]

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[21] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/2013/30 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[22] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[24] See resolution 67/234 B.

Welcoming the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, and the adoption of the outcome document, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem",[25] taking note of the discussion therein, and reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[26] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[27]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 64/293, 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 70/178;[28]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,[6] when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[3] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[4] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[5] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 187, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime;

6. *Recalls* article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[10] and General Assembly resolution 69/197 of 18 December 2014, in which, inter alia, the need for the establishment of a mechanism to review the

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[25] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[26] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[27] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[28] A/71/114.

implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto by States parties was reiterated, and underlines that the review of the implementation of the Convention is an ongoing and gradual process and that it is necessary to explore all options regarding the establishment of a mechanism to assist the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

7. *Welcomes with appreciation* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session to continue the process of establishing a mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to elaborate specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the mechanism, which shall include the elements specified by the Conference of the Parties, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session, as well as its decision that the mechanism shall progressively address all the articles of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, in accordance with the agreed clusters of articles and the multi-year workplan;

8. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[23]

9. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 180, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

10. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while supporting an effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking also into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

13. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

14. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions 70/1 and 70/299;

15. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance with domestic legislation, of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime, and to strengthen all forms of cooperation to enable the return of illicitly acquired assets in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, as well as identity-related crime, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, trafficking in precious metals and stones, counterfeiting in trademark goods, crimes that affect the environment and illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

17. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement deradicalization programmes and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law;

18. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

19. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolution 70/299;

21. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities;

22. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

23. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and to the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[29] bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

27. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[30] and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;[31]

28. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

29. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[32] to

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[29] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[30] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[31] See E/CN.15/2015/16.

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of that Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

31. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is considered, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through that crime, and to consider the smuggling of migrants to be a predicate offence of money-laundering;

32. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19] as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector;

33. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

34. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

35. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

36. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

37. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention, and invites States parties to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/196;

38. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (*b*) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

39. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

40. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and in hazardous waste involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (*b*) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

41. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in precious metals and stones by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in precious metals and stones;

42. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

43. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime and responses to it by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and calls upon Member States to explore specific measures designed to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter effectively criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity theft, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography, in particular child sexual abuse imagery, from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms;

44. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal abuse of information and telecommunications technologies, and to enhance international cooperation in this regard;

45. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support and improved data collection and analysis;

46. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

47. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

48. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

49. *Invites* Member States to develop national plans for the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to

strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

50. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

51. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

52. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

53. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and after the completion of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, a high-level debate to observe the twenty-fifth anniversary of the assassination of Judge Giovanni Falcone, focusing on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto and highlighting emerging trends and challenges in crime prevention and criminal justice and their impact on sustainable development, and to prepare a President's summary of the discussion for transmission to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and to all Member States;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/486)*]

71/210. Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[1] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[2]

Reaffirming also the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[3] adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, as well as the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission,[4]

Recalling its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, in which it adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and encouraged Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes,

Recalling also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009,[3] 53/6 of 12 March 2010,[5] 54/4 of 25 March 2011,[6] 55/4 of 16 March 2012,[7] 57/1 of 21 March 2014[4] and 58/4 of 17 March 2015,[8]

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[1] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[2] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[4] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[5] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 8* (E/2010/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[6] Ibid., *2011, Supplement No. 8* (E/2011/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[7] Ibid., *2012, Supplement No. 8* (E/2012/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[8] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 8* (E/2015/28), chap. I, sect. C.

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Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note of the outcome of the international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development,[10] which includes conclusions and recommendations drawn from the field visits, the seminar/workshop and the high-level International Conference, and noting in particular the alternative development projects, as seen in the field visits, focused on enhancing individual and community resilience and recognized as an example of the sufficiency economy philosophy of the King of Thailand,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges and that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production,

Expressing concern that the illicit cultivation of drug crops and illicit drug production, manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain major challenges in countering the world drug problem, and recognizing the need to strengthen sustainable crop control strategies that include alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of drug crops, and the need to intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges,

Noting with concern that overall financial support for alternative development projects and programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development projects and programmes, has accounted for only a minor share of official development assistance and has reached only a minor percentage of communities and households involved in illicit drug crop cultivation at the global level,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the international seminar/workshop and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Bangkok, Thailand, and Shan State, Myanmar, from 19 to 24 November 2015 and hosted by the Government of Thailand, in collaboration with the Government of Germany, the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[10] as an input to continued discussions on and enhanced implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[11] in accordance with national legislation;

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[9] Resolution 70/1.

[10] E/CN.7/2016/13, annex.

[11] Resolution 68/196, annex.

2. *Reaffirms*, as highlighted in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, that alternative development, as an integral component of policies and programmes for reducing drug production, is an important, viable and sustainable option for preventing, eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through tackling poverty and providing livelihood opportunities;

3. *Urges* Member States affected by or at risk of illicit crop cultivation to consider integrating comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, into national development policies and strategies, as appropriate, to address illicit crop cultivation and its related socioeconomic factors, provide sustainable alternative livelihoods and significantly contribute to the building of inclusive and just societies in order to reduce inequality within and among countries;

4. *Urges* Member States, when formulating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development strategies and policies, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies and policies, to take into account the specific needs of the communities and groups affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies;

5. *Stresses* that, when designing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, the focus should be on empowering and encouraging ownership by local communities, including women, children and young people, taking into account their specific needs, and on strengthening local capacities, as ensuring the effective cooperation of all stakeholders in the entire alternative development process is crucial for the success of alternative development;

6. *Also stresses* that comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, as one of the tools available for tackling the world drug problem, increases the State's presence, builds trust between communities and government, strengthens local governance and institutions, promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and, under Sustainable Development Goal 16, includes the promotion of the rule of law;

7. *Encourages* further discussions on the relationship and potential links between alternative development and the promotion of the rule of law by individuals and communities, as well as on the wide range of challenges affecting the livelihoods and well-being of people, in order to further develop measures to address the root causes of such challenges;

8. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes;

9. *Stresses* that access to productive land and land rights, such as legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, should be promoted and protected in the implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, in a manner that is consistent with domestic law and regulations as well as with the full participation of and in consultation with local communities;

10. *Emphasizes* that the marketability of products stemming from alternative development programmes should be assessed before implementing such programmes and, where applicable, alternative development products should be aimed at creating

value-added chains to enable target communities to obtain higher incomes in order to support sustainable livelihoods and substitute the income generated from illicit crop cultivation;

11. *Encourages* the international community, including civil society, the scientific community and academia, to work with affected communities to develop recommendations focusing on specific alternative development strategies that take into account demographic, cultural, social and geographical conditions and include ideas on supporting and promoting new products;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, and calls upon Member States with experience in this area to share outcomes, assessments of implemented projects and lessons learned, thereby contributing to the dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles;

13. *Urges* Member States to sustain political will and a long-term commitment with regard to implementing alternative development programmes and strategies and to continue to engage in awareness programmes and in dialogue and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders;

14. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to increase their rural development support for regions and populations affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourages States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes;

15. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen intragovernmental coordination when designing and implementing alternative development projects and programmes;

16. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies to further increase their interaction with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to support Member States in effectively implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, with a view to further enhancing coherence and coordination within the United Nations system;

17. *Encourages* development agencies, donors and financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and academia to share information, experiences and best practices, promote research and increase efforts on the promotion of alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development;

18. *Recognizes* that more research is needed to better understand and identify factors contributing to the emergence of illicit crop cultivation and to improve impact assessments of alternative development programmes;

19. *Affirms* that, in addition to estimates of illicit cultivation and other illicit activities related to the world drug problem, indicators related to human development, socioeconomic conditions, rural development and the alleviation of poverty, as well as institutional and environmental indicators, should be used when assessing alternative development programmes in order to ensure that the outcomes are in line with national and international development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that they reflect accountable use of donor funds and truly benefit affected communities;

20. *Calls upon* Member States and other donors to consider providing long-term support to alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, that target the illicit cultivation of drug crops, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governments and institutions, improve infrastructure, including the provision of public services such as water, energy, health and education in areas acutely impacted by the illicit cultivation of drug crops, promote the participation of local communities, enhance the empowerment of people and strengthen the resilience of communities;

21. *Encourages* Member States to maintain and strengthen international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, as an essential part of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcomes of such programmes, especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

22. *Encourages* Member States with extensive expertise in alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, to continue to share best practices, upon request, promote research to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation and foster and strengthen international cooperation, including cross-continental, interregional, subregional and regional technical cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which includes in some cases preventive alternative development;

23. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

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[on the report of the Third Committee (A/71/486)]

71/211. International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Welcoming and reaffirming the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem"[1] in its entirety, reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and aim at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[2] and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[3] and recalling the resolutions adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Recalling other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 70/182 of 17 December 2015,

Recalling also all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-ninth session,[5]

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[6] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[7] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and

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[1] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[3] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[4] Resolutions S-20/1, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A–E.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 8* (E/2016/28), chap. I.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

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Psychotropic Substances of 1988[8] and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] and noting that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming its commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern about the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and reaffirming its determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking,

Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[10] with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Recognizing that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

Reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in developing an effective and comprehensive approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and reaffirming further the support and appreciation of the General Assembly for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and reaffirming further the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, among other agencies, within their respective mandates,

Recognizing also that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, plays an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and noting that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the

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[8] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[9] Resolution 70/1.

[10] Resolution 217 A (III).

formulation, implementation, and the providing of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and recognizing further the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard,

Reaffirming the determination of Member States to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirming also the determination of Member States to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse,

Reaffirming also the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognizing the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

Recognizing that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to reinforce national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges,

Recognizing also, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity,

Expressing deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon,

Noting with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlighting the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, and rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies,

Recognizing that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation,

Welcoming continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels,

Stressing the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the identification, reporting of and response to new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Noting with grave concern the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Noting with grave concern also the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes,

Expressing concern that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production can cause serious harm to the environment, including deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, the loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways and the release of greenhouse gases,

Reaffirming that alternative development policies are an important component in enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and that they play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation,

Reaffirming also the commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

Reaffirming further the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem, and calling for enhancing assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the operational recommendations contained in the annex to resolution S-30/1 of 19 April 2016,

Recognizing that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law,

Encouraging Member States to develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations so as to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and to encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model,

Recalling the adoption, by its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and its decision, in resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to convene a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem that would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

1. *Welcomes* the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, at which the Assembly reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[2] including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, takes note of the discussions held during the session, and welcomes and reaffirms in its entirety the outcome document entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem";[1]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;[3]

3. *Reaffirms* that addressing and countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[10] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[11] on human

[11] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

5. *Encourages* Member States to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

6. *Reiterates its commitment* to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole and to facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

7. *Also reiterates its commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

8. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

9. *Recognizes* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirms the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[8]

10. *Urges* Member States to address the relevant socioeconomic factors that relate to the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach that incorporates drug policies in a broader socioeconomic and development agenda, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions;

11. *Invites* Member States to consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of illicit cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

12. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages Member States to consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

13. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and the need to consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

14. *Reiterates its call* to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[12]

15. *Urges* Member States to increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, to develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and to enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

16. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing cooperation among public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

17. *Also invites* Member States to promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, to promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, and to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

18. *Recognizes* drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature, with social causes and consequences, that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and also recognizes the need to strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

19. *Encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists, such as naloxone, to reduce drug-related mortality;

20. *Invites* Member States to promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

22. *Encourages* Member States to involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other co-dependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

23. *Also encourages* Member States to consider alternatives to incarceration, conviction and punishment where appropriate and in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, noting that, in appropriate cases of a minor nature, States may provide, as alternatives to conviction or punishment, measures such as education, rehabilitation or social reintegration, as well as, when the offender has a drug abuse disorder, treatment and aftercare, as well as support for recovery;

24. *Encourages* the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control

conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);[13]

25. *Also encourages* the consideration of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[14]

26. *Invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices in order to facilitate collaboration between justice and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

27. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the knowledge of policymakers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourages the cooperation of Member States with, and cooperation among, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

28. *Urges* Member States to ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and to ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

29. *Encourages* Member States to promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities so as to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance access to treatment for drug use disorders for those who are incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[15] implement, where appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

[13] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[14] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[15] Resolution 70/175, annex.

31. *Encourages* Member States to promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences, whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

32. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

33. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to marginalization, crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

34. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to counter money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve legal cooperation, including judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

35. *Underlines* the need to strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and to strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

36. *Notes* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

37. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled;

38. *Reiterates* the strong commitment of Member States to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing the diversion and abuse of and trafficking in such substances;

39. *Recognizes* the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, and the need to place appropriate focus within the respective jurisdictions of Member States on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

40. *Welcomes* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 June 2016;[16]

41. *Invites* relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, as well as consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

42. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle the global challenges related to the world drug problem in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

43. *Takes note with appreciation* of the 2015 report of the International Narcotics Control Board[17] and the supplementary reports thereto, including the report entitled "Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes – Indispensable, adequately available and not unduly restricted",[18] which highlights the urgent need to ensure that substances under control are available for medical and scientific needs, provides an assessment of their availability and identifies impediments to access that Member States must work to overcome;

44. *Invites* Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account the publication entitled "Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled

[16] Resolution 70/266, annex.

[17] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2015/1.

[18] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1.

Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines", and, for that purpose, to consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

45. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

46. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(*a*) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

(*b*) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impacts of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

47. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among other things, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

48. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and to promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

49. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

50. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

51. *Also encourages* Member States to establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

52. *Calls upon* Member States to commit to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and to consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or to make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

53. *Invites* Member States to support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

54. *Also invites* Member States to promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

55. *Calls upon* Member States to continue efforts to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to the health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

56. *Invites* Member States to target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

57. *Encourages* the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support for initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, and encourages Member States to develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and to consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to

markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

58. *Expresses concern* that illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and recognizes the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need for intensifying joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

59. *Invites* Member States to consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

60. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;[19]

61. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

[19] Resolution 68/196, annex.

62. *Urges* Member States to promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard;

63. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[20]

64. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, and notes, inter alia, the holding of the Second International Conference on Alternative Development in Thailand from 19 to 24 November 2015;

65. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of resolution 2016/19 on 26 July 2016, entitled "Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development", and encourages Member States, international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take due account of the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate;

66. *Urges* Member States to increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

67. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, so as to assist Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

68. *Calls upon* Member States to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime

[20] Resolution 61/295, annex.

and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

69. *Invites* Member States to enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through the detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and to identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

70. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including, and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes, such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

71. *Also encourages* Member States to use existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

72. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

73. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering the world drug problem;

74. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

75. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including enhancing the analytical work of laboratories, by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, by supporting requesting States to enhance or develop new national indicators and instruments;

76. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint

cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

77. *Encourages* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

78. *Invites* Member States to consider the need to review the set of national drug policy metrics and tools for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable, comprehensive and comparable data to measure the effectiveness of programmes to address all relevant aspects of the world drug problem, including, as appropriate, as related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[9]

79. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard;

80. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts in supporting States to establish, upon request, the operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and in facilitating the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

81. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

82. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective

utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

83. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

84. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

85. *Calls upon* Member States to resolve to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, underscores the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, and notes the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes;

86. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[6] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[7] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[21] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[22]

87. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

88. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-ninth session[5] and the *World Drug Report 2016*;

89. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the

[21] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[22] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact[23] and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange, with a view to countering drug trafficking, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

90. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and reiterates the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

91. *Encourages* the continued contribution of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Brussels from 22 to 25 June 2015, Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 September 2016, Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2016, Colombo from 24 to 27 October 2016 and Riyadh from 20 to 24 November 2016;

92. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

93. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

94. *Calls upon* Member States to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of the recommendations;

95. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to identify operational recommendations in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly that fall within their area of specialization and to commence implementing the recommendations made in the outcome document that are within their existing mandates, in collaboration and cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, keeping the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of programmes and progress made to achieve goals set out in the outcome document, and requests the Office to include, within its existing reporting obligations, a chapter regarding collaboration and coordination across the United Nations system in the global efforts to implement the recommendations adopted at the thirtieth special session;

[23] See S/2003/641, annex.

96. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes;

97. *Welcomes* the commencement of the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session through the intersessional process of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encourages the Commission to continue working on and supporting Member States in the implementation and sharing of best practices corresponding to the seven thematic areas of the outcome document, and invites the Commission to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the outcome document, including by ensuring that the Commission is informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society;

98. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to include in its report to the Economic and Social Council a section on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

99. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[24] and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

65th plenary meeting
19 December 2016

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[24] A/71/316.